the State Governments.

Comprehensive Cooperative Housing Scheme for Urban Poor

762. DR. AKHILESH DAS: Will the Minister of URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have worked a comprehensive cooperative housing scheme for the urban poor to replace the Jhuggi-jhopris with neatly planned permanent houses in multi-storied blocks for them; and

(b) if so, the estimated number of such shelters to be constructed in each State and the number of the urban poor to be housed therein; and other details of the Scheme, indicating phase-wise action plan therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (KUMARI SELJA) (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Development of Slums in Dharavi, Mumbai

†763 SHRI R.S. GAVAI: Will the Minister of URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have announced financial assistance of Rs. 500 crores for development of slums situated at Dharavi in Mumbai;

(b) if so, the financial assistances rendered by Government so far; and

(c) by when the whole amount meant for the purpose would be provided?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (KUMARI SELJA) (a) Yes, Sir. In January, 2004, the Prime Minister had announced Rs. 500 crore aid to Government of Maharashtra for development of Dharavi in Mumbai.

(b) and (c) The Government of Maharashtra had forwarded a project proposal in December, 2003 for construction of approximately 71,000 houses, along with infrastructure, for rehabilitation of slum dwellers in Dharavi, at an approximate cost of Rs. 5,000 crore. The same was examined in consultation with the Planning Commission, and some clarifications were sought from the State Government. No funds were released to the State Government against the said project. In the meantime, the Planning Commission has undertaken

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.